

**Amendments to the Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an animal having depression, a condition that results in depression, or a similar condition, comprising administering to the animal a~~The use of a combined composition comprising hydrocortisone and a delivery vehicle wherein said delivery vehicle provides for delayed and sustained release of hydrocortisone, for the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of depression, or a condition which results in depression, or similar condition.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The method of Use according to C~~laim 1, wherein said disease or condition [[is]]comprises: selected from the group consisting of: depression, a sleep disorder[[,]]; fatigue[[,]]; abnormal eating[[,]]; addiction[[,]]; anxiety[[,]]; jet lag-chronic fatigue syndrome; myalgic encephalitis; jet lag; shift work[,]}; depression resulting from a person being overweight; depression resulting from dieting; depression resulting from the treatment of cigarette addiction; depression resulting from the treatment of alcohol addiction; depression resulting from the treatment of drug addiction; or the treatment of seasonal affective disorder-or a like condition.~~
3. (Currently Amended) The method of Use according to C~~laim 1, [[2]] wherein the animal has said disease or condition is depression, or similar condition.~~
4. (Currently Amended) The method of Use according to C~~laim 3, wherein the depression is clinical depression, reactive depression, or post-natal depression.~~
5. – 6. (Canceled)
7. (Currently Amended) The method of Use according to C~~laim 1, wherein the condition results from the administration of an antipsycotic drug.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The method of Use according to Cclaim 7, wherein the antipsycotic drug is selected from the group consisting of: clozapine, olanzapine, risperidone, quetiapine or sertindole.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of diseases or conditions that result in depression, or a condition which results in depression, or similar condition, comprising the steps of:

- i) providing a combined preparation of hydrocortisone, or a functional variant thereof, and a delivery vehicle wherein said vehicle provides for the sustained release of hydrocortisone or variant thereof;
- ii) administering the combined preparation in (i) to an animal requiring treatment such that hydrocortisone, or variant thereof, is released in a sustained manner;
- iii) providing a combined preparation of hydrocortisone, or variant thereof, and a delivery vehicle wherein said vehicle provides for the delayed but sustained release of hydrocortisone, or variant thereof; and
- iv) administering the combined preparation in (iii) to an animal requiring treatment such that hydrocortisone, or variant thereof, is released in a delayed but sustained manner.

10. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to CClaim claim 9, wherein said disease or condition is depression.

11. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to CClaim claim 9, or 10 wherein said animal is administered hydrocortisone which is released in a sustained manner which is followed by hydrocortisone which is released in a delayed but sustained manner.

12. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to any of Claims claim 9,[-11]] wherein said animal is human.

13. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to any of Claims claim 9,[-12]]  
wherein said functional variant of hydrocortisone is cortisol or cortisone.

14. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to any of Claims claim 9,[-13]]  
wherein said condition comprises is selected from the group consisting of: chronic fatigue  
syndrome; myalgic encephalitis; jet lag; shift work; depression resulting from a person being  
overweight; depression resulting from a person dieting; depression resulting from the treatment  
of addiction, ~~for example smoking or drugs~~; alcohol addiction; or the treatment of seasonal  
affective disorder or a like condition.

15. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to Claim claim 9, wherein said  
condition results from the administration of an antipsycotic drug.

16. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to Claim claim 15, wherein said  
antipsycotic drug is selected from the group consisting of: clozapine, olanzapine, risperidone,  
quetiapine or sertindole.

17. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to any of Claims claim 9,[-16]]  
wherein said sustained release preparation is administered in the morning, ~~preferably between~~  
~~08:00 and 12:00~~.

18. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to any of Claims claim 9,[-16]]  
wherein said delayed and sustained release formulation is administered in the evening, ~~preferably~~  
~~between 18:00 and 24:00~~.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting side effects due to administration of a  
glucocorticoid, comprising administering to an animal ~~The use of a combined composition~~  
comprising a glucocorticoid[,,] and a delivery vehicle, wherein said delivery vehicle provides for  
delayed and sustained release said glucocorticoid ~~for the manufacture of a medicament for use in~~  
~~the treatment of side effects due to the administration of said glucocorticoid.~~

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim Use according to Claim 19, wherein said glucocorticoid is selected from the group consisting of: hydrocortisone or a functional variant thereof; cortisol; cortisone acetate; prednisolone; prednisone; or dexamethasone.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim Use according to Claim 19, or 20 wherein said side effect is increasing weight gain, reduction in bone density, muscle or skin wastage, or insulin resistance.

22. - 24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of an animal which animal is suffering from having side effects as a result of glucocorticoid administration, comprising the steps of:

- i) providing a combined preparation of a glucocorticoid and a delivery vehicle wherein said vehicle provides for the sustained release of said glucocorticoid;
- ii) administering the combined preparation in (i) to an animal requiring treatment such that the glucocorticoid is released in a sustained manner;
- iii) providing a combined preparation of a glucocorticoid and a delivery vehicle wherein said vehicle provides for the delayed but sustained release of said glucocorticoid; and
- iii) administering the combined preparation in (iii) to an animal requiring treatment such that the glucocorticoid is released in a delayed but sustained manner.

26. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to Claim 25, wherein said glucocorticoid is selected from the group consisting of: hydrocortisone or a functional variant thereof; cortisol; cortisone acetate; prednisolone; prednisone; or dexamethasone.

27. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to Claim claim 25, or 26 wherein said side effect is increasing weight gain, reduction in bone density, muscle or skin wastage, or insulin resistance.

28. - 30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A method of restoring and entraining an endogenous circadian rhythm of cortisol in an animal having a condition that does not result from cortisol deficiency but is a consequence of a disruption in the normal circadian secretion of cortisol, comprising administering to the animal ~~The use of a combined composition comprising hydrocortisone and a delivery vehicle, wherein said delivery vehicle provides for delayed and sustained release of hydrocortisone, for the manufacture of a medicament to restore and entrain the endogenous circadian rhythm of cortisol in conditions that do not result from cortisol deficiency but are a consequence of a disruption in the normal circadian secretion of cortisol.~~